

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-32. (canceled)

33. (currently amended) A circular blade device (1) for cutting flat marble, granite, glass or similar sheets (5), comprising:

numerical control means (2) for a cutting head (3) having a blade (14) addressable within a cutting volume; and ~~comprising~~

means for manipulating said sheets within said cutting volume, the manipulating means for said sheets (5) comprising at least one manipulator member (12) arranged to cooperate with the sheet being cut and employing suction to hold the sheet, wherein the numerical control means (2) are arranged to move the cutting head (3) along a first, a second and a third axis (7, 8, 9) of translation perpendicular to one another and, moreover, arranged to rotate said cutting head (3) about said third axis (9) to allow diagonal cuts to be made, said third axis being substantially vertical, and wherein said manipulating means is mounted on and movable with said cutting head.

34. (currently amended) [[A]] The device as claimed in claim 33, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said manipulator member is associated with actuator means (15) which enable [[it]] said manipulator member to move vertically.

35. (currently amended) [[A]] The device as claimed in claim 34, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said actuator means (15) are rigid with the cutting head(3).

36. (currently amended) [[A]] The device as claimed in claim 34, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said actuator means (15) are of pneumatic type.

37. (currently amended) [[A]] The device as claimed in claim 34, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the numerical control[[-]]means (2) control said actuator means.

38. (currently amended) [[A]] The device as claimed in claim 33, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said numerical control means (2) are arranged to rotate said cutting head (3) about a fourth axis (10) perpendicular to said third axis (9), to enable cuts to be made with their edge inclined to the upper and lower surface of the sheet.

39. (currently amended) [[A]] The device as claimed in claim 33, ~~characterised by presenting further comprising~~ a cutting disc (65) disposed below the sheets (5) in such a manner as to operate on the lower face of the sheets(5).

40. (currently amended) [[A]] The device as claimed in claim 33, ~~characterised in that said~~ wherein a cutting disc (65) is disposed to [[the]] a side of a cutting support (6) on which said sheet (5) is rested during the cutting by the cutting head.

41. (currently amended) [[A]] The device as claimed in claim 33, ~~characterised in that said~~ wherein a cutting disc (65) can be moved vertically by one or more actuators (66).

42. (currently amended) [[A]] The device as claimed in claim 33, ~~characterised in that said~~ wherein a cutting disc (65) forms part of a milling machine (64) rigid both with a frame (63) mounted on vertical guides (62) and with an actuator (66) for vertically moving said disc (65).

43. (currently amended) [[A]] The device as claimed in claim 42, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said vertical guides (62) are fixed to a ledge (60) projecting from said support (6).

44. (canceled)

45. (new) A circular blade device (1) for cutting flat marble, granite, glass or similar sheets (5), comprising:

a numerical control device (2) for a cutting head (3) having a blade (14) addressable within a cutting volume; and

a device for manipulating said sheets within said cutting volume, the device for manipulating said sheets (5) comprising at least one manipulator member (12) arranged to cooperate with the sheet being cut and employing suction to hold the sheet, wherein the numerical control device (2) is arranged to move the cutting head (3) along a first, a second and a third axis (7, 8, 9) of translation perpendicular to one another and, moreover, arranged to rotate said cutting head (3) about said third axis (9) to allow diagonal cuts to be made, said third axis being substantially vertical, and wherein said device for manipulating is mounted on and movable with said cutting head.

46. (new) The device as claimed in claim 45, wherein said manipulator member is associated with an actuator (15) which enables said manipulator member to move vertically.

47. (new) The device as claimed in claim 34, wherein said actuator (15) is rigid with the cutting head (3).

48. (new) The device as claimed in claim 47, wherein said actuator (15) is pneumatic.

49. (new) The device as claimed in claim 46, wherein the numerical control device (2) controls said actuator (15).

50. (new) The device as claimed in claim 45, wherein said numerical control device (2) is arranged to rotate said cutting head (3) about a fourth axis (10) perpendicular to said third axis (9), to enable cuts to be made with their edge inclined to upper and lower surface of the sheet.

51. (new) The device as claimed in claim 45, further comprising a cutting disc (65) disposed below the sheets (5) in such a manner as to operate on the lower face of the sheets(5).

52. (new) The device as claimed in claim 45, wherein a cutting disc (65) is disposed to a side of a cutting support (6) on which said sheet (5) is rested during the cutting by the cutting head.

53. (new) The device as claimed in claim 33, wherein a cutting disc (65) can be moved vertically by one or more actuators (66).

54. (new) The device as claimed in claim 33, wherein a cutting disc (65) forms part of a milling machine (64) rigid both with a frame (63) mounted on vertical guides (62) and with an actuator (66) for vertically moving said disc (65).

55. (new) The device as claimed in claim 54, wherein said vertical guides (62) are fixed to a ledge (60) projecting from said support (6).